

15 (Amended) An organic electroluminesence display device comprising:

a resin substrate; and

an underlying insulating film formed in contact with the resin substrate,

wherein the underlying insulating film comprises a first insulating film comprising

a nitride and a second insulating film comprising silicon oxide.

24(Amended) An organic electroluminesence display device comprising:

a resin substrate;

an insulating film comprising a nitride in contact with the resin substrate; and

a channel region of a thin film transistor, wherein the channel region comprises

amorphous silicon and is formed over the insulating film.

29 (Amended) The organic electroluminesence display device according to claim 27 wherein said first insulating film comprises a material selected from the group consisting of silicon nitride and silicon oxy-nitride.

30 (Amended) An organic electroluminesence display device comprising:

a resin substrate;

an insulating film comprising a nitride in contact with the resin substrate; and

a channel region of a thin film transistor, wherein the channel region comprises

crystalline silicon and is formed over the insulating film.

35 (Amended) The organic electroluminescence display device according to claim 33 wherein said first insulating film comprises a material selected from the group consisting of silicon nitride and silicon oxy-nitride.

36 (Twice Amended). An organic electroluminescence display device comprising:
a resin substrate; and
an insulating film comprising an oxy-nitride in contact with the resin substrate.

REMARKS

Applicant will address each of the Examiner's rejections in the order in which they appear in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 29 and 35 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner states that it is unclear whether "said insulating film" in these claims refers to the underlying insulating film as a whole, or to the first insulating film or to the second insulating film. Applicant has now amended each of these claims to recite "said first insulating film." Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has now been overcome, and it is requested that it be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

The Examiner also rejects Claims 12-14, 24-26 and 30-32 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Yamazaki et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner contends that Yamazaki discloses a resin substrate 101 comprising PET and an insulating film 104 comprising silicon nitride or silicon oxide on the resin substrate. However, Yamazaki discloses an acrylic resin layer 102 between PET film 101 and gate-insulating film 104. See Figs. 1A and 1B and cols. 3-4 of Yamazaki.

In contrast, amended independent Claims 12, 24 and 30 are directed to an organic electroluminescence device comprising a resin substrate and an insulating film comprising a nitride *in contact* with the resin substrate. As this is clearly not shown or suggested by Yamazaki, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are not anticipated but are patentable over this reference. Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Rejection of Claims 15-17, 36 and 37

The Examiner also rejects Claims 15-17, 36 and 37 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Yamazaki et al. in view of Zhang et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 15 and 36 to recite that the insulating film is *in contact* with the resin substrate. As explained above, since this is clearly not shown or suggested by Yamazaki (and Zhang is not being cited for this feature), it is respectfully submitted that these claims would not have been obvious but are patentable over these references. Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 18-23, 27-29, 33-35 and 38-43

The Examiner also rejects Claims 18-23, 27-29, 33-35 and 38-43 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Yamazaki et al. in view of Hamada et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

The Examiner contends that Yamazaki discloses a resin substrate 101 comprising PET, an insulating film 102 comprising an acrylic resin on the resin substrate, and a TFT 103-109 formed over the insulating film. The Examiner further states that Yamazaki specifies that acrylic resin layer 102 serves to planarize the uneven surface of the PET film. The Examiner then states that Hamada teaches that planarization of a substrate can be achieved by utilizing a planarizing insulating film 44 comprising a plurality of materials including acrylic resin film, silicon nitride, or silicon nitride oxide. The Examiner then contends that it would have been an obvious matter of design choice for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Yamazaki by utilizing a “planarizing” insulating film comprising a nitride instead of acrylic resin.

However, in the present invention, the insulating film is for preventing impurities, such as sodium ions and the like, from diffusing from the substrate (e.g. 100 in Fig. 1A) in the semiconductor layer (e.g. 103) and for increasing the adhesive performance of a film formed on the substrate (see e.g. page 10, lns. 7-14 of the present application), not for planarizing the uneven surface of the resin substrate. Hence, one skilled in the art would not read Yamazaki and then look to Hamada to arrive at the claimed display device of the above rejected claims of the present application. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims over the cited references is improper and should be withdrawn.

IDS

Applicant is submitting an IDS herewith and requests consideration of the IDS along with this response.

Conclusion

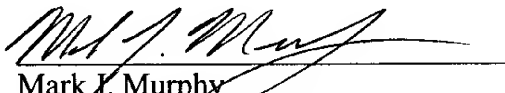
It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in a condition for allowance, and it is requested that it now be allowed.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1039 for any fee due for this amendment.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: *April 4, 2003*


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